

## MAGNESIUM TORCHES.

More Advantageous Than the Ordinary Explosive Powders.

Just the Thing for Amateur Photographers—How to Construct a Simple Yet Effective Torch for Burning Pure Magnesium Powder.

Amateur photographers, and some professionals, find in the flash light a great accession to their photographic properties, inasmuch as it enables them to produce really creditable work at times and in places which would prove disadvantageous if daylight had to be depended upon.

For such subjects as require instantaneous work, the explosive powders are useful, and perhaps in the majority of cases necessary, but for nine-tenths of the work flash lights of the torch type, using pure magnesium powder, without any explosive, answers perfectly, while it has the advantage of producing a less offensive smoke.

The annexed engraving, says the Scientific American, shows an exceedingly simple and very effective torch for burning pure magnesium powder. It is similar to some found at the stores; it differs mainly in the matter of construction and materials. A vial three inches high, and one inch in diameter, forms the receptacle for the powder. The neck of the vial is large enough to receive a small rubber or cork stopper (rubber preferred) having two perforations. In one is inserted a tube having its lower end projecting a quarter of an inch below the stopper, this end being contracted so that its aperture is about one thirty-second inch in diameter, or about as large as a good sized pin. This tube is curved over to receive the rubber pipe by which the blast is furnished to the apparatus.

In the other aperture of the stopper is inserted a piece of tubing of about three-sixteenths inch internal diameter and a length of three and three-quarters inches. The tubes may be of glass or brass.

A wire spiral bent into a circle and connected at the ends receives a roll of woolen cloth, or better a filling of asbestos fiber, and the end of the wire forming the spiral is bent at right angles, and wrapped around the tube. A quarter-inch space is left all around the tube, between the tube and the



A MAGNESIUM TORCH.

inner portion of the spiral. The vial is one-quarter or one-half filled with fine, pure magnesium powder, and the fibrous material in the wire spiral is saturated with alcohol. When all the preparations for the exposure have been made, including lighting the alcohol, the operator blows strongly through the rubber tube; the concentrated jet stirs up the powder in the vial thoroughly, and the air escaping through the longer tube carries the powder through the flame, thus producing a spire of flame about two feet high. Several puffs may be made if the subject is one requiring strong illumination.

The principal point to look out for is to make the contracted blowpipe of such capacity relative to the discharge tube as will insure the comparatively slow passage of the powder through the flame. If the blowpipe is too large, the powder will pass through the flame so rapidly as to fail of igniting. In this way a large proportion of the powder may be lost; but with correctly proportioned tubes the combustion is very perfect.

The writer has taken a number of fair sized interiors with this torch. Pure magnesium powder can be used in this apparatus with perfect safety, but explosive powders used in a confined space (such as the vial in this torch) are dangerous.

## The Humming-Bird Flower.

Alletto Avasis, the wonderful so-called "humming-bird flower" of the plains of eastern Turkey, stands unique and alone among the many specimens of floral mimicry that have been classified by modern botanists. It is a beautiful blossom of variegated hues, the total length of the entire flower being about 1 1/4 inches. As one might imagine from its name, it is an exact image of a miniature humming-bird. The breast is green, the wings deep rose color, the throat yellow, and the head and beak almost black. The only particular in which it is not a perfect bird is that the stem gives it the appearance of having but a single leg and foot.

## Lepers in the World.

According to Mulhall leprosy is far more prevalent in Europe than most people suppose. He says that there are now 3,000 lepers in Portugal, 1,770 in Norway, 6,000 in Russia, and about 2,000 all told in other European countries. In India there are 131,000, and in Canton, China, not less than 10,000. He does not give figures for other countries and islands, but it is estimated that the leper population of the world is but little, if any, short of a million.

## Hereditary Small Waists.

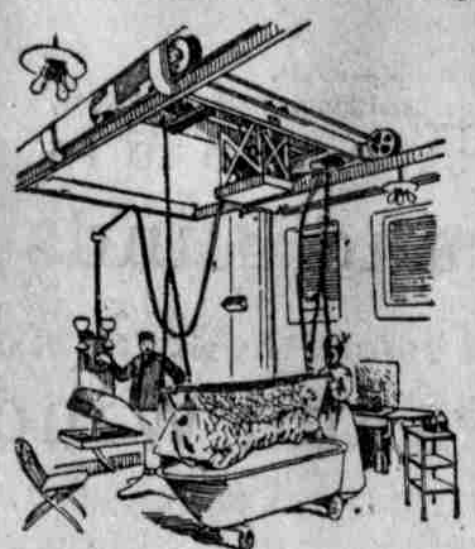
The small waists of French women are believed by some scientists to be the result of heredity. Ages of tight lacing, they say, has produced a physical peculiarity in the nation.

## SUNSTROKE VICTIMS.

Scientific Way in Which They Are Treated in a New York Hospital.

When anyone asks those connected with the House of Relief, in Hudson street, New York, as the successor of Chambers street hospital is known, about the apparatus for treating cases of sunstroke, the inquirer is promptly told that it is the finest in the world. They have many cases of sunstroke and overcomings by heat, and this apparatus is a very important part of the remarkably complete hospital.

There are about nine ambulance calls a day, the year around, and in the summer the number is much greater, because of the heat. A man suffering from sunstroke is almost always unconscious, and is a very difficult patient to handle. The most important remedy



SHIFTING A PATIENT BY ELECTRICITY.

for sunstroke is ice and ice water, because they lower the temperature of the sufferer and drive the blood from his head.

When a man suffering from the heat or the sun is brought to the hospital he is disrobed, wrapped in a sheet, and placed on a stretcher of netting. This has poles like an ordinary stretcher. The stretcher and the man are picked up by a traveling crane and lowered into a tub with 200 or 300 pounds of ice in it.

This crane, says the New York World, is the device of which those connected with the hospital are so proud. It was invented by Dr. L. A. Stimson, the visiting surgeon. The framework runs on wheels over tracks supported from the ceiling. It can travel across the room, for the sunstroke ward is a complete apartment.

The crane moves back and forth by hand, and it runs very easily. From either side of the traveler are suspended chains, which part about half way down and have loops at the end, in which the poles of the stretcher are inserted. These chains are raised and lowered by an electric motor on the traveler.

While the patient lies on a cot with the wire stretcher under him the poles are inserted in the rings. An attendant turns the switch and the unconscious man is smoothly and swiftly lifted into the air. Then he is rolled along and lowered into the porcelain bathtub filled with ice and water.

The time he remains in this tub depends altogether upon his condition. It varies usually from fifteen minutes to half an hour. If he were in a normal condition he would be pretty nearly frozen in that time, but with a temperature of 106 or 109 as was the case with the first subject on which the apparatus was used, the ice doesn't chill very quickly.

After the patient has remained in the ice water as long as the surgeon thinks necessary, he is again lifted by the electric crane, and is carried to a cot, where bags of ice water are kept under his head.

This sunstroke ward is a large and airy room, beautifully tiled and finished all in white, but the patient does not remain there long. As soon as he begins to recover he needs plenty of fresh air, and so he is placed in the elevator and taken to the roof, where he lies under an awning in a great iron cage, which prevents him from jumping off or wandering away.

## BIG WOMAN'S NERVE.

With Her Chicago Feet She Scars On Two Weaker Ones of the Sex.

A tragedy in feminine life was narrowly averted at noon the other day by what the Chicago Tribune terms an immense supply of cool nerve. Two well-dressed girls were just about to turn the corner of Monroe and State streets



ONE FOOT ON THE QUARTER.

at Chicago when one of them dropped a quarter, which rolled towards a well-known store window. The girls both stopped and chattered volubly as to the probable whereabouts of the money. A stout, aggressive type of femininity also stopped, and, discovering the quarter, quietly placed her well-sized Chicago foot upon it and proceeded to innocently gaze at the display of bargains in the window. Probably suspicion of the woman's act dawned in the minds of those girls, for they kept looking around and about the skirts of the impassive piece of avoidpous, who calmly held her ground and the quarter. Tired of searching, the two girls marched off in a huff. Then the stout individual stooped down and picked up the quarter. Unluckily for her just as she was in the act one of the girls looked around. Taking in the situation she and her friend hurried back to the spot. The stout woman was equal to the occasion. She moved along with slow and impressive gait, which was evidently too much for the girls, who gave up the battle.

## A Hint for Farmers.

The weeping willow should be planted in tiers.

## UNCLE SAM'S SOLDIERS.

Soon They Will Wear a New Style of Uniform.

The Old-Fashioned Cap Will Be Supplanted by a Nobby Piece of Head-gear—Something Entirely New in Coats.

Styles in army uniforms are changing this summer. The order does not come from the prince of Wales or from any autocratic New York or London tailor, but from the sole arbiter of fashions for army men, the secretary of war.

A new order has been issued, to go into effect July 1, materially changing the style of the officers' undress uniforms. To a military man the matter of dress is most important, not from any feeling of personal vanity, but as a part of the regular and orderly discipline, the national peculiarities and the traditions of service which form the largest element in the life of every good soldier.

Following is the text of the new order in part. It affects both staff and line officers and enlisted men:

By direction of the secretary of war the undress coat and the undress cap for all officers, except chaplains, and the undress cap for all enlisted men, are adopted according to the following general descriptions and patterns in the office of the quartermaster general:

A single-breasted sack coat of dark blue cloth or serge with standing collar. The coat to be trimmed with lustrous black mohair flat braid. This coat will be worn when full dress is not required. During the warm season post commanders may authorize this coat made of white duck or flannel, to be worn with white braid, but without shoulder straps or collar insignia.

On undress duty a plaid leather belt will be worn under the undress coat, the sword hook emerging through the opening of the coat on the left side. For field service, or when the pistol is carried, the belt will be worn outside the undress coat when so directed by the commanding officer.

The insignia for officers' undress coats will be as follows:

For all officers, the letters "U. S.," Gothic design, of suitable height, each followed by a period, embroidered in gold or made of gold or gilt metal, fastened to each side of the collar.

For all officers of the staff corps and departments, their distinctive insignia,



UNDRESS HAT AND COAT.

without wreath, fastened to each side of the collar.

For all officers of the line the recent forage cap ornament, embroidered in gold or made of gold or gilt metal, fastened to each side of the collar.

The undress cap to be of dark blue cloth. For general officers a band of black velvet, and for all other officers, except chaplains, a band of lustrous black mohair braid filling the space between the welts. The cap badge for officers and enlisted men placed in front so that the top of the badge will be slightly below the top of the cap.

The cap badge for all officers will be the coat-of-arms of the United States, embroidered in gold, modified according to pattern.

So much of this order as refers to the undress coat and cap for officers shall take effect on July 1, 1895, and that portion of it that relates to the undress cap for enlisted men on the 1st of January, 1896.

## Fishes That Cannot Swim.

More than one species of fish is met with which cannot swim, the most singular of which, perhaps, is the maltha, a Brazilian fish, whose organs of locomotion only enable it to crawl, or walk, or hop, after the manner of a toad, to which animal this fish to some extent bears a resemblance, and it is provided with a long, upturned snout. The anterior (pectoral) fins of the maltha, which are quite small, are not capable of acting on the water, but can only move backward and forward, having truly the form of thin paws. Both these and the ventral and anal fins are very different from the similar fins in other fishes, and could not serve for swimming at all. Other examples of non-swimming fishes include the seahorse, another most peculiarly shaped inhabitant of the sea, which resembles the knight in a set of chess men; and the starfish, of which there are many specimens, which mostly walk or crawl on the shore or rocks, both being unable to swim.

## Truly Colossal Timepiece.

One of the most wonderful clocks in the world is being exhibited in St. Petersburg. It was originally manufactured for the late Duke Charles of Brunswick, who bequeathed it to the Swiss confederation. There are no fewer than 95 faces to this colossal timepiece. It indicates simultaneously the time of day at 30 different spots of the earth's surface, besides the movement of the earth around the sun, the phases of the moon, the signs of the zodiac, the passage over the meridian of more than 50 stars of the northern hemisphere, and the date according to the Gregorian, Greek, Mussulman and Hebrew calendars. So complicated are the works that it took two years to put them together after the clock had been sent in detached pieces from Switzerland to Russia.

## SENSATIONS IN ILLNESS.

Curious How a Man Feels When He Knows He Needs a Doctor.

"It is curious," said a man the other day, reports the Washington Post, "the various sensations a man experiences when he goes to see a doctor or a dentist. There is a long, preliminary siege of mental agony, alternately exaggerating and belittling your ailment, until finally in a moment of desperation you decide to go and see what is the matter anyway. Perhaps you have a cold, which has settled on the lungs and developed a troublesome cough that keeps you awake nights. The cough itself is not so bad as the terrible possibilities it suggests. Visions of swift demise from pneumonia or slow wasting away with consumption rise up before your eyes, and every wheeze and cough confirms these terrible premonitions. If you could, you would go then in a hurry, but in the morning you feel better.

"The cough is still there, but the terrors of the imagination have fled before the daylight, you put it off another day. But finally you decide to go, and, with firmness born of despair, march up to the medical man's door to learn your fate. In the case of toothache everyone knows how a tooth will hop and jump and smart all day until you get to the dentist's, and then calm down so quiet and painless that you can't tell which one was aching. It is the same way with a cough or other ailment. As you go up to the door you secretly hope that the doctor is not at home. You pull the doorbell gently, and half wish that you had not come. Then the funniest part of it all is how mad you will get when you find the doctor is not at home, and feel as if you had been cheated out of one of your dearest hopes."

## Why Not You?

When thousands of people are taking Hood's Sarsaparilla to overcome the weakness and languor which are so common at this season, why are you not doing the same? when you know that Hood's Sarsaparilla has power to cure rheumatism, dyspepsia and all diseases caused by impure blood, why do you continue to suffer? Hood's cures others, why not you?

Hood's Pills are prompt and efficient. 25c.

## The First Knitting Machine.

Historic mention of hand-knitting is first found in the books of the time of Queen Elizabeth, although it is known that it was one of the arts of the Pompeians. The first machine for knitting was the invention of one William Lee, who made application for a patent in England in 1589. On being refused a patent by the English authorities he forthwith departed for France, and soon afterwards set up a large factory at Rouen. The Lee machine, which remained the same as it was two hundred years before, was introduced in the colonies during the revolutionary war. A sharp Yankee improved on it and set up the first United States stocking factory at Cohoes, N. Y., in 1832.

## What a Spider Eats.

Commenting on the amount which a spider actually consumed during twenty-four hours, Sir J. Lubbock says: "At a similar rate of consumption a man weighing one hundred and sixty pounds will require a whole fat steer for breakfast, a steer and five sheep for dinner, and for supper two bullocks, eight sheep and four hogs, and just before retiring nearly four barrels of fresh fish."

## Animal Life in Hawaii.

Some interesting discoveries have recently been made about animal life on the Hawaiian islands. It appears that all the land and freshwater shells are peculiar to the locality. Nor is this all. Fifty-seven out of the 78 species of birds and 700 out of the 1,000 species of insects do not exist in any other portion of the globe.

## Better than Hot Springs.

COBB, Ky.—I write to thank you for the Electropoise, and will state that I have been suffering with sciatica for three years. I was not able to do any work, and tried everything and made a trip to Hot Springs, which gave me partial relief, but I was as bad as ever a short while after I returned home. Thanks to the Electropoise I can now say I am a well man from every rheumatic pain. GEO. R. WHITE.

Two years ago I was in very bad health, physicians said it was Bright's Disease, and they could do nothing for me, and my chances for living as long as two months was very slim. I bought an Electropoise and began to improve at once. Am now in first-class health.

L. A. HOPSON, Hopson, Ky.

I am well pleased with the Electropoise, and can not say too much in its praise; I used it for rheumatism, and it has entirely cured me. Those suffering with rheumatism should by all means give it a trial.

T. B. LAMB,

McGowan, Ky.

Electropoise rented.

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C. P. WAREFIELD, Supt

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